

9 May 1968

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SUBJECT: WOOD, William Clarence, Jr.  
aka BOXLEY, William

In December 1944 William Clarence WOOD, Jr. was security approved for OSS employment to be used overseas in a writing/publishing assignment. However, he was assigned to combat infantry duties in the Southwest Pacific Area and was not used by OSS. Of interest in his file at this time are memoranda recording a visit he made to the Honolulu Office of OSS in February 1945 in which he told the office how he had been recruited by OSS while attending infantry school at Fort Benning in October 1944; that his services were to be used in originating and conducting radio programs in the CBI theater; that when he did not hear from OSS, he made certain inquiries and found that his record had been carefully investigated by Dunn and Bradstreet; that he then made a long distance call to OSS Personnel Procurement Office. He was told that temporarily the OSS was not in a position to avail themselves of his services but he was to keep in touch. The interviewing officer in Honolulu forwarded a report of the visit to the Security Officer in OSS Headquarters with a comment to note the Dunn and Bradstreet leak and that Subject certainly knew more about the inside of OSS than any potential recruit he ever saw and Subject had never been in Washington.

On 13 December 1950 Subject was granted a Covert Security Clearance for use as a Staff Agent with Project (TP) FOCUS. He was assigned to the (Island of Saipan) as Chief Instructor of Clandestine Operations. He reported for duty 8 January 1951 and arrived overseas 12 March 1951. In May 1951 his dependents were issued travel clearances to join him at the (Saipan Base). Subject suffered a nervous breakdown in March 1952 and was returned to Headquarters, Washington for medical observation. Examination by the Medical Office in April 1952 concluded that Subject's breakdown was caused by family trouble and overindulgence in alcohol. The Medical Office recommended that he should not attempt any extreme covert work but should only accept either light semi-covert or overt duties with a probationary period of one year, these duties to be performed within the continental limits of the United States. Subject was assigned to OTR as an instructor in the Operations Course in May 1952 and recommended for conversion to staff status after a four-month probationary period. This transfer was security approved in October 1952 and he received his appointment as a GS-11 Training Instructor with OTR (Operations Training Branch).

In December 1952 he was found by an Agency guard lying on a sidewalk near Temporary Eye Building bleeding from the mouth. There was no evidence of foul play and he was taken to Emergency Hospital at his own request.

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In January 1953 when he failed to report for duty, representatives from the Medical Office and Security went to his residence at the Lafayette Hotel where they found Subject under the influence of alcohol. He was requested to report for duty the next day; however, a house doctor at the Lafayette Hotel had him removed to Gallinger Hospital for intoxication the next day after a maid found him in a state which she thought was illness. He was released to the 5th Precinct Police and charged with drunkenness. A Security Officer obtained his release.

Subject resigned 27 January 1953 after an interview by a Security representative on 19 January 1953 at which time his resignation was requested.

On 11 July 1953 Subject called the Security Office collect from Dallas, Texas stating he was to have a brain operation on 13 July 1953 at Baylor Hospital in Dallas, Texas and he wanted to know if an Agency representative could be there. Instructions were given to the OS Chicago Field Office by Headquarters Security to have a representative contact the head of Baylor Hospital at Dallas, Texas and advise him that Subject had had access to highly classified information in which the Government had an interest; he had a history of becoming talkative under anesthesia and that personnel in the operating room during the course of the operation should be cautioned not to disclose any information divulged by Subject while under anesthesia. Mr. David HITT, Administrator of Baylor University Hospital, agreed to cooperate. Subject was put under sodium pentothol, a spinal tap and x-rays were made but no brain operation was required. A confidential informant advised that Subject made the following remarks in his hospital room after returning from the operating room: He "had served overseas with the CIA and had seen many people killed. The CIA are a bunch of dirty cut-throats and I wouldn't be a bit surprised if they sent one of their men to cut mine. They think they are smart but one of these days in the near future I will show them who is the smartest. They have about 100 GS-14's walking around with their heads shaped like eggs. ... I have been a failure but after I get well I am going to go back to school and get my degree and fight the CIA with everything that I can."

An FBI report of an Internal Security character dated 30 April 1957 from Dallas, Texas reported that Subject telephoned long distance from Midland, Texas to a Chinese Intelligence officer in Formosa claiming to have been formerly employed by CIA. Subject offered to "help you with things I know". Then Subject called a person in Lubbock, Texas believed to be his wife. He told her he had talked with the Chief of Intelligence for Chiang KAI-CHEK in Formosa and that she and the baby will receive \$700 - \$1,000 per month "if this thing goes through". Subject was identified in the report as formerly employed by various newspapers; a world traveler and formerly employed by CIA.

Domestic Contact Service requested clearance to use Subject in February 1957 reporting that he had not had a drink in nine years. On

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3 March 1967 information from the FBI report and information that Subject was drinking heavily again was forwarded to DCS for their evaluation in determining the extent and level of their use of Subject. Attached memo from DCS dated 26 April 1968 reports that after receipt of this adverse information Subject was dropped by DCS as a potential source.

Bio data dated 9 January 1967 reveals that Subject, born 17 August 1920 at Shreveport, Louisiana, resided at 724 International, Apt. FR 9, Houston, Texas. At that time he was employed as Executive Vice President, Houston Tribune Publishing Company, Houston, Texas. In 1954 he was employed by Charles B. ROTH and associates. In 1950 he worked for the DENVER POST. His father, William Clarence WOOD, Sr., is a banker at Lubbock, Texas (Lubbock National Bank) and is well-to-do.

(Paul ROTHERMEL, Security Officer for Hunt Oil Company, who was the person approached by Subject recently for information on CIA operations for Jim GARRISON, and who reported the visit to the Houston DCS Office, is a former FBI agent who was considered as a prospective recruit as a Confidential Correspondent in March 1959.

OS indices were negative on Clymer WRIGHT and Harold G. PYLE mentioned in attached memorandum from Houston DCS office dtd 26 April 1968.

See attached summary on William BOXLEY.

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